

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for identifying an amino acid sequence from the *N. meningitidis* serogroup B strain MC58 genome, comprising the steps of:

providing a computer database comprising the *N. meningitidis* serogroup B strain MC58 genome sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

searching for putative open reading frames or protein-coding sequences within the computer database;

identifying an amino acid sequence corresponding to the searched putative open reading frames or protein-coding sequences; [[and]]

outputting the identified amino acid sequence to a user display or storing the identified amino acid sequence to a computer storage medium; and

producing a protein comprising the identified amino acid sequence.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the searching comprises the steps of:

searching the computer database containing SEQ ID NO:1 for an initiation codon; and

searching for an in-frame termination codon downstream of the initiation codon.

Claim 3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Withdrawn / Currently Amended): A method for identifying a protein in *N. meningitidis*, comprising the steps of producing a ~~protein~~ the protein according to ~~claim 3~~ claim

1, producing an antibody which binds to the protein, and determining whether the antibody recognizes a protein produced by *N. meningitidis*.

Claims 5-25 (Canceled)

Claim 26 (Withdrawn / Currently Amended): A method for identifying a protein in ~~*N. meningitidis*~~ *N. meningitidis*, comprising the steps of producing ~~a protein~~ the protein according to ~~claim 25~~ claim 2, producing an antibody which binds to the protein, and determining whether the antibody recognizes a protein produced by *N. meningitidis*.

Claims 27-82 (Canceled)

Claim 83 (Previously Presented): The method of according to claim 1, comprising outputting the identified amino acid sequence to a user display.

Claim 84 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, comprising storing the identified amino acid sequence to a computer storage medium.

Claim 85 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the putative open reading frame does not consist of one or more of NMB0427, NMB0428, NMB0429 and NMB0430.